

THE PUNISHER



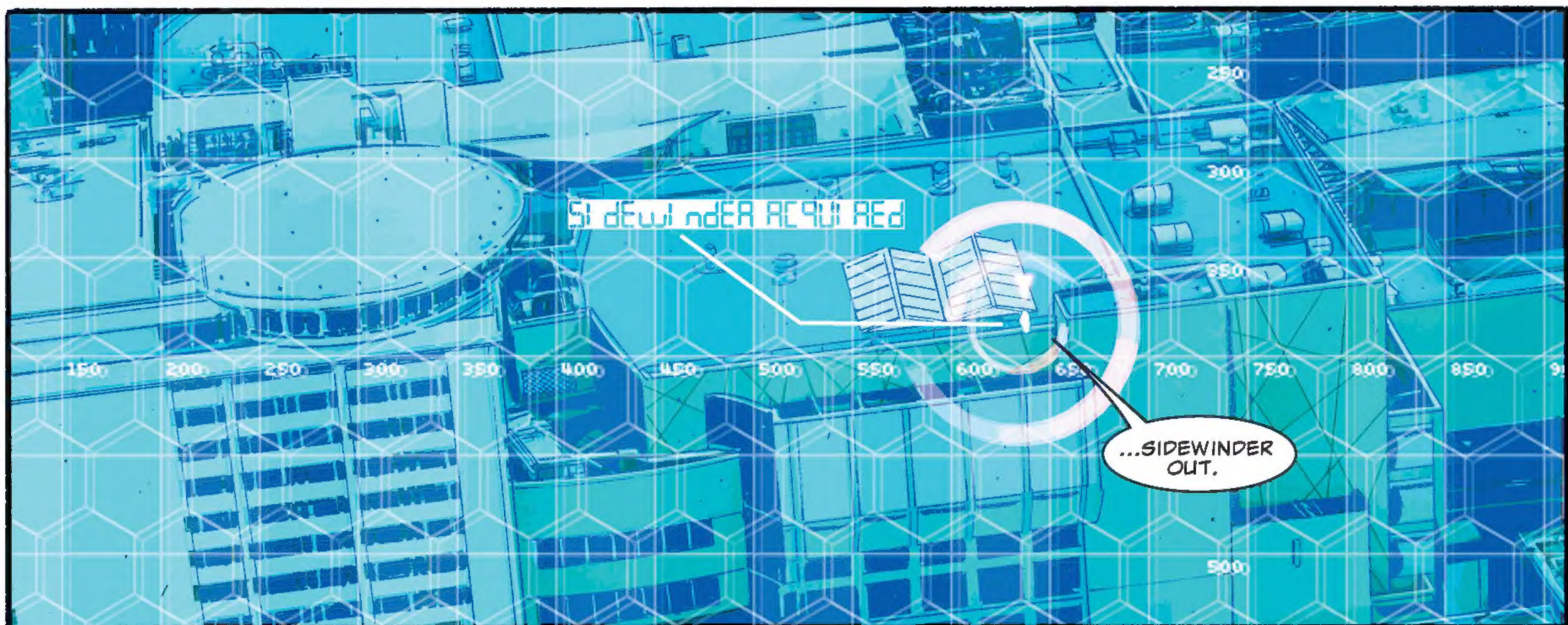
FRANK CASTLE was once a decorated Marine officer, an upstanding citizen and family man. Then his family was violently taken from him when they were accidentally killed in a mob hit. From that day on, Frank Castle shed his old identity and became a force of cold, calculated retribution and vigilantism known as

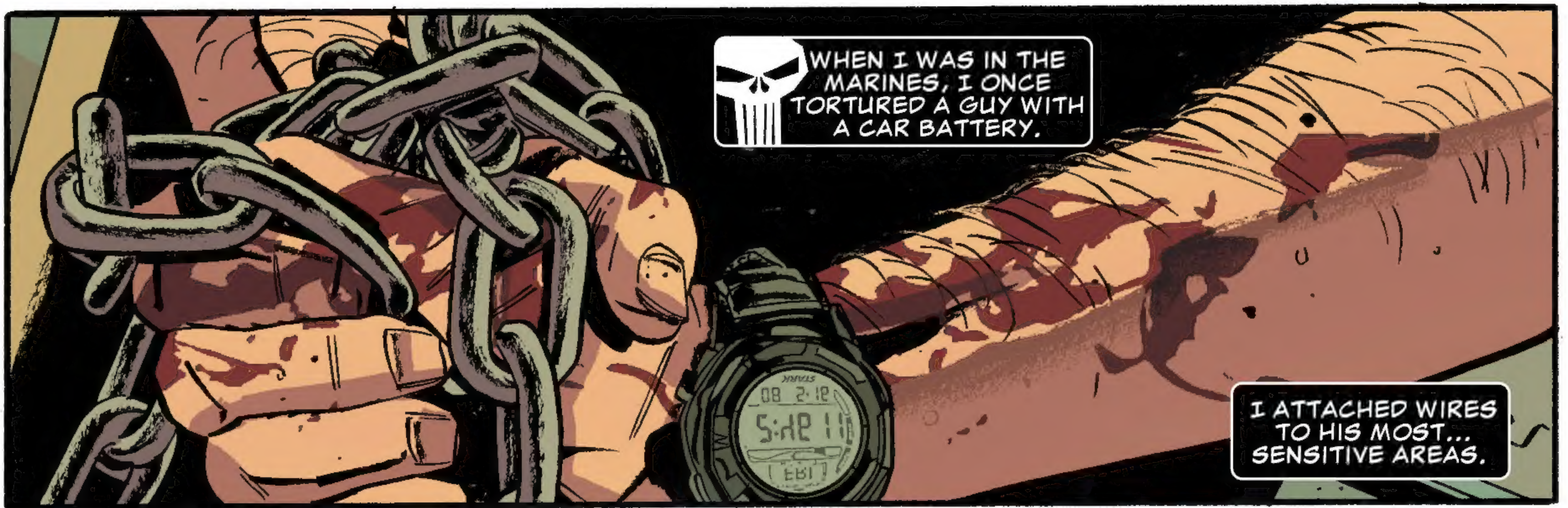
— THE PUNISHER —

PREVIOUSLY

A trail of drugs, corruption and terror perpetrated by the Dos Soles gang led Frank Castle to Los Angeles. The Dos Soles joined forces with science terrorists A.I.M. (Advanced Idea Mechanics) and the super villain Electro to execute an attack on L.A. that included a horrific chemical weapon. As Frank pursued the gangsters with the help of a military contact named Tuggs, the hunter was himself being hunted. An elite military strike force, the new HOWLING COMMANDOS, had Frank in their sights, but they may have lost their chance. One of Frank's reconnaissance missions went wrong, resulting in the Punisher falling into the clutches of the Dos Soles.







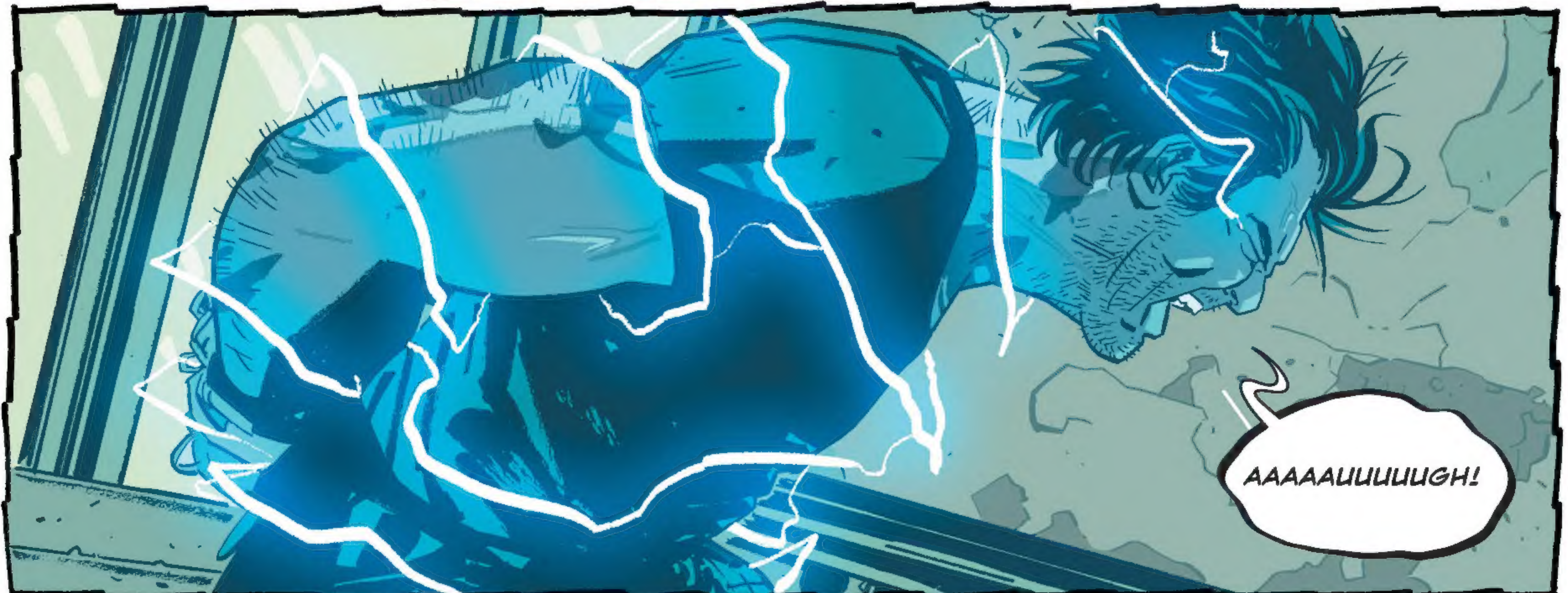
WHEN I WAS IN THE MARINES, I ONCE TORTURED A GUY WITH A CAR BATTERY.

I ATTACHED WIRES TO HIS MOST... SENSITIVE AREAS.



IT WAS EFFECTIVE.

HE TOLD ME EVERYTHING.



AAAAAUUUUUUGH!



THIS IS HOW IT **ENDS** FOR THE PUNISHER. THE CRIMINALS YOU HUNT TORTURE AND KILL YOU. THE HEROES WON'T COME TO SAVE YOU.

FRANK CASTLE, YOU'RE ALONE IN THIS WORLD, LEAVING, AS THEY SAY, JUST THE WAY YOU ARRIVED.

OH, JEEZ. KILL ME ALREADY.



WHY KILL YOU WHEN I CAN PROFIT FROM YOU?

THINK OF HOW MANY PEOPLE OUT THERE WOULD PAY FOR YOU, ALL THE ENEMIES YOU'VE MADE...LIKE IT'S BEEN YOUR JOB.

YOUR'E A COWARD RUNNING AN EMPIRE OF COWARDS.



MY EMPIRE WILL SOON BE THIS ENTIRE CITY.

YES, YOU'VE MADE PLENTY OF ENEMIES. ONE OF THEM IS ME. YOU KILLED HECTOR, YOU DESTROYED ONE OF MY DRUG OPERATIONS, YOU BLEW UP ONE OF MY BUILDINGS...

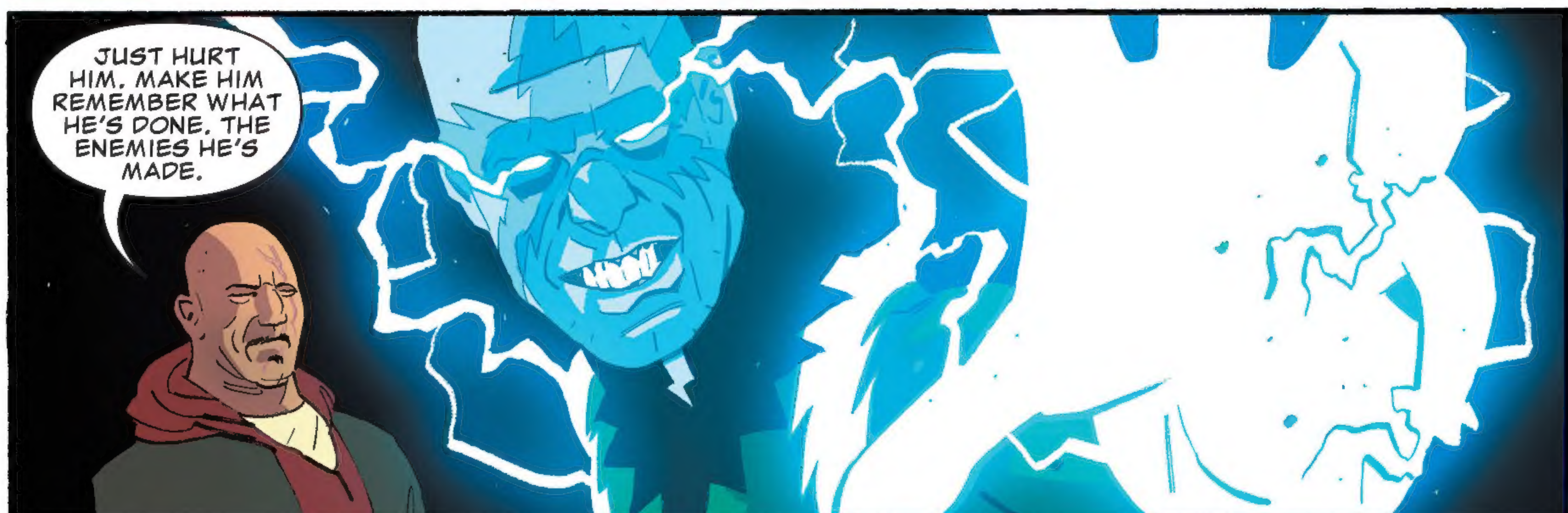
YEAH, I'M GOING TO SELL YOU, BUT FIRST, YOU'RE GOING TO SUFFER AT MY HANDS.

WELL, ELECTRO'S.

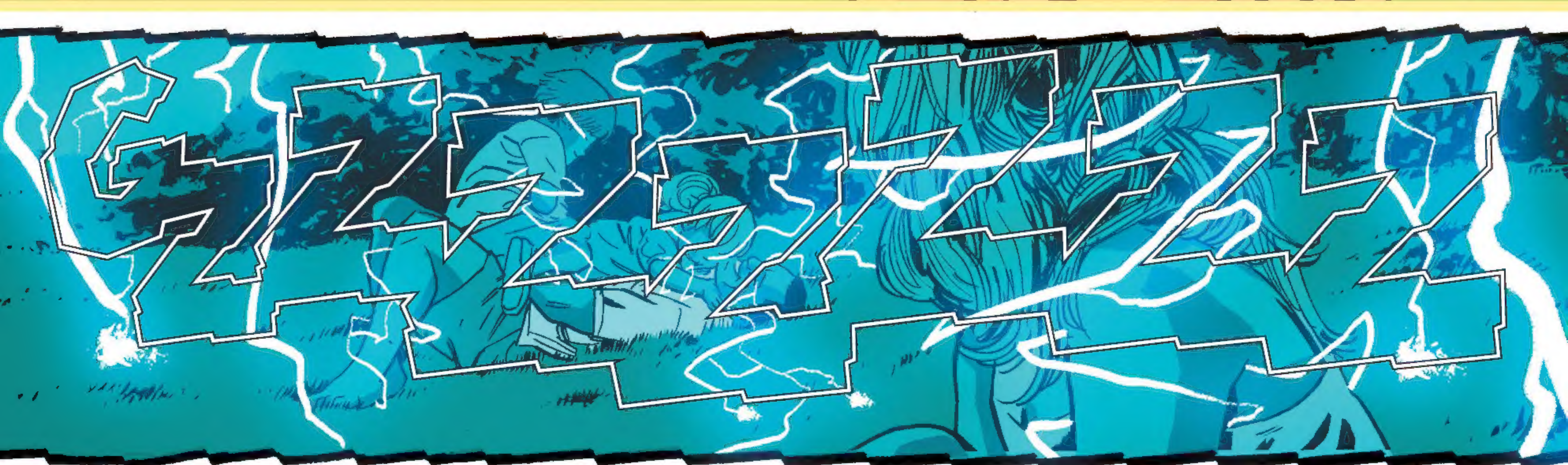
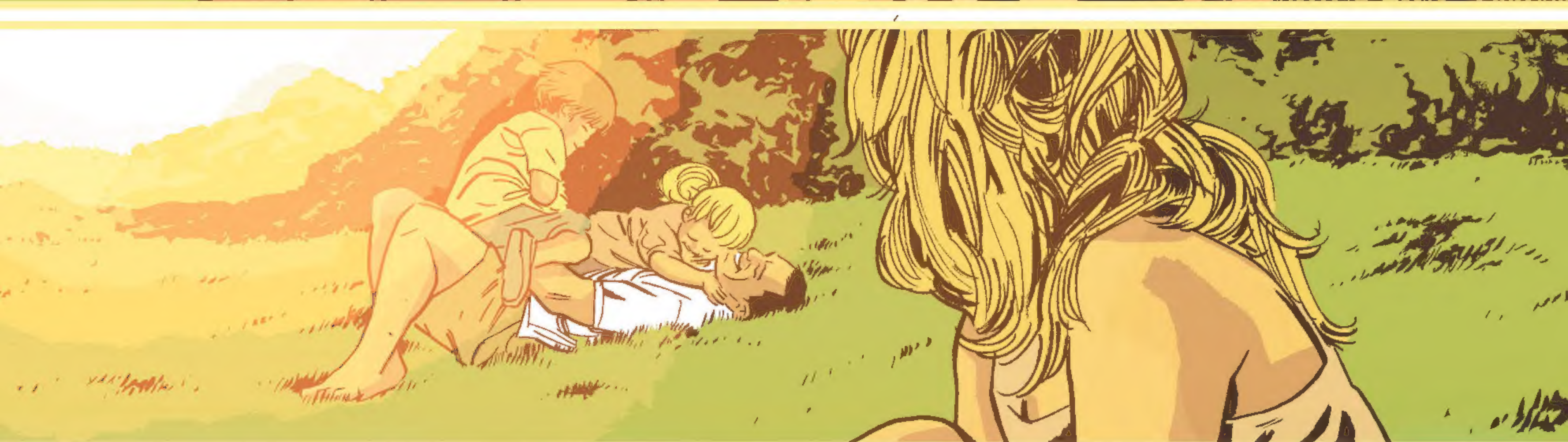
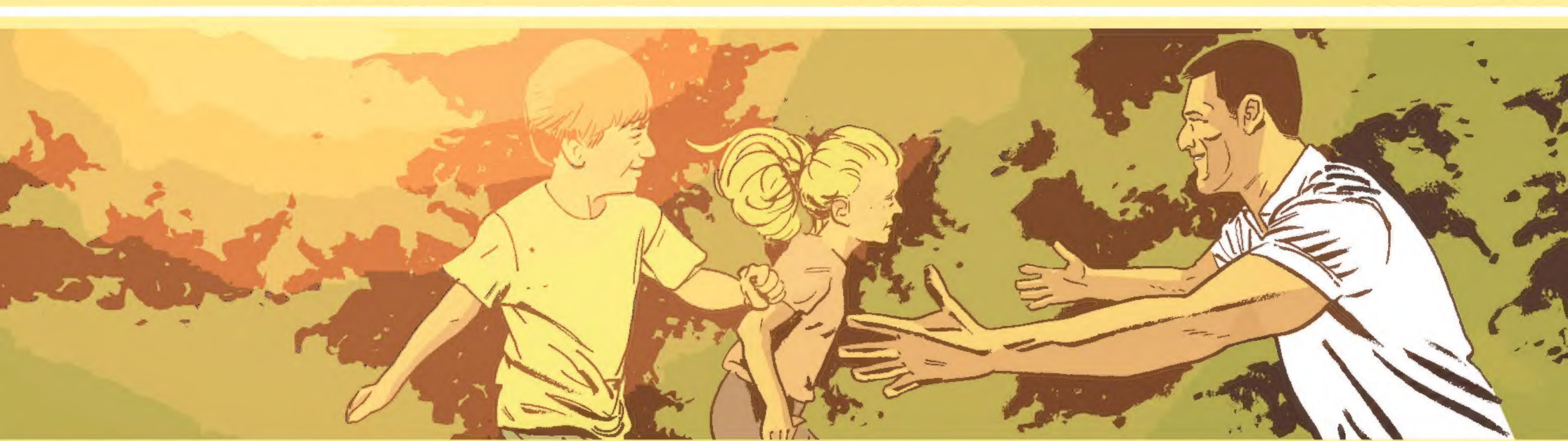


DON'T KILL HIM. I CAN'T SELL HIM DEAD.

WELL, MAYBE I COULD SELL HIS VEST ON EBAY.



JUST HURT HIM, MAKE HIM REMEMBER WHAT HE'S DONE, THE ENEMIES HE'S MADE.





REMEMBER
WHO YOU
ARE.

STATIC CHARGE

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VC'S CORY PETIT
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MITCH GERADS
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I GOT WORD FROM ON HIGH. WE ARE TO EXECUTE IMMEDIATELY.

NO MORE GATHERING INTEL. THEY JUST WANT HIM REMOVED.

WHY THE RUSH? WE CAN BUILD AN ENTIRE PROFILE--

I COULDN'T SAY. BUT LET'S TIGHTEN THE KILL CHAIN AND WRAP THIS JOB UP.



SARGE, YOU GET THE SENSE THERE'S MORE BEHIND THIS THAN JUST CLEANING UP A ROGUE OPERATOR?

THERE'S ALWAYS MORE TO IT, MOFFLY. LET'S DO THE JOB AND GET OUR ASSES HOME. I, FOR ONE, WANT THAT R&R.

FINE. SO NOW WE'VE GOT TO FIND CASTLE.



LET ME SUGGEST A DIFFERENT APPROACH, MYERS.

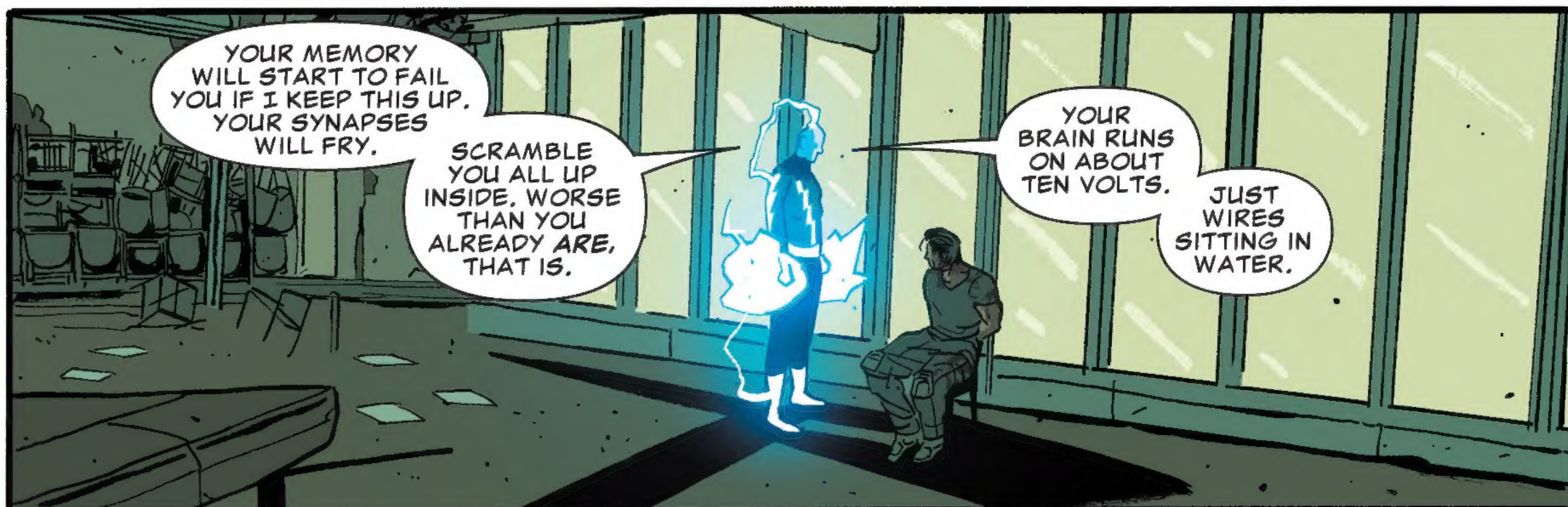
LET'S STOP TRYING TO SNIFF HIM OUT.

WHAT DO YOU PROPOSE?



WE GET SOMEONE ELSE TO SNIFF HIM OUT.





YOUR MEMORY
WILL START TO FAIL
YOU IF I KEEP THIS UP.
YOUR SYNAPSES
WILL FRY.

SCRAMBLE
YOU ALL UP
INSIDE. WORSE
THAN YOU
ALREADY ARE,
THAT IS.

YOUR
BRAIN RUNS
ON ABOUT
TEN VOLTS.

JUST
WIRES
SITTING IN
WATER.



MINE RUNS
ON ABOUT
10,000...



MAYBE YOU
HAVE A FUTURE
TEACHING HIGH
SCHOOL SCIENCE.
OR POWERING MY
TV REMOTE.



WHAT DEL
SOL DOESN'T
KNOW IS THAT YOU'VE
BEEN A PAIN IN MY
SIDE BEFORE.

AND I DON'T
INTEND FOR HIM
TO **SELL** YOU TO
ANYONE ELSE. OH
NO, YOU'RE ALL
MINE.

WHAT DID
YOU EXPECT?
JUST A TOY
SOLDIER, PLAYING
IN A SUPER HERO'S
SANDBOX.
PITIFUL.



NICE SPEECH.
BUT I THINK I'M
GOING TO STEP
OUT FOR A
MOMENT.

DO YOU
NOW--





IT'S A SHOCK
TO YOUR
SYSTEM.



LOSING
SOMETHING
YOU CANNOT
REPLACE.



BUT IT'S A SHOCK
THAT NUMBS YOU TO
EVERYTHING ELSE.

SO YOU DEAL
PRETTY WELL WITH
PAIN EVER AFTER.

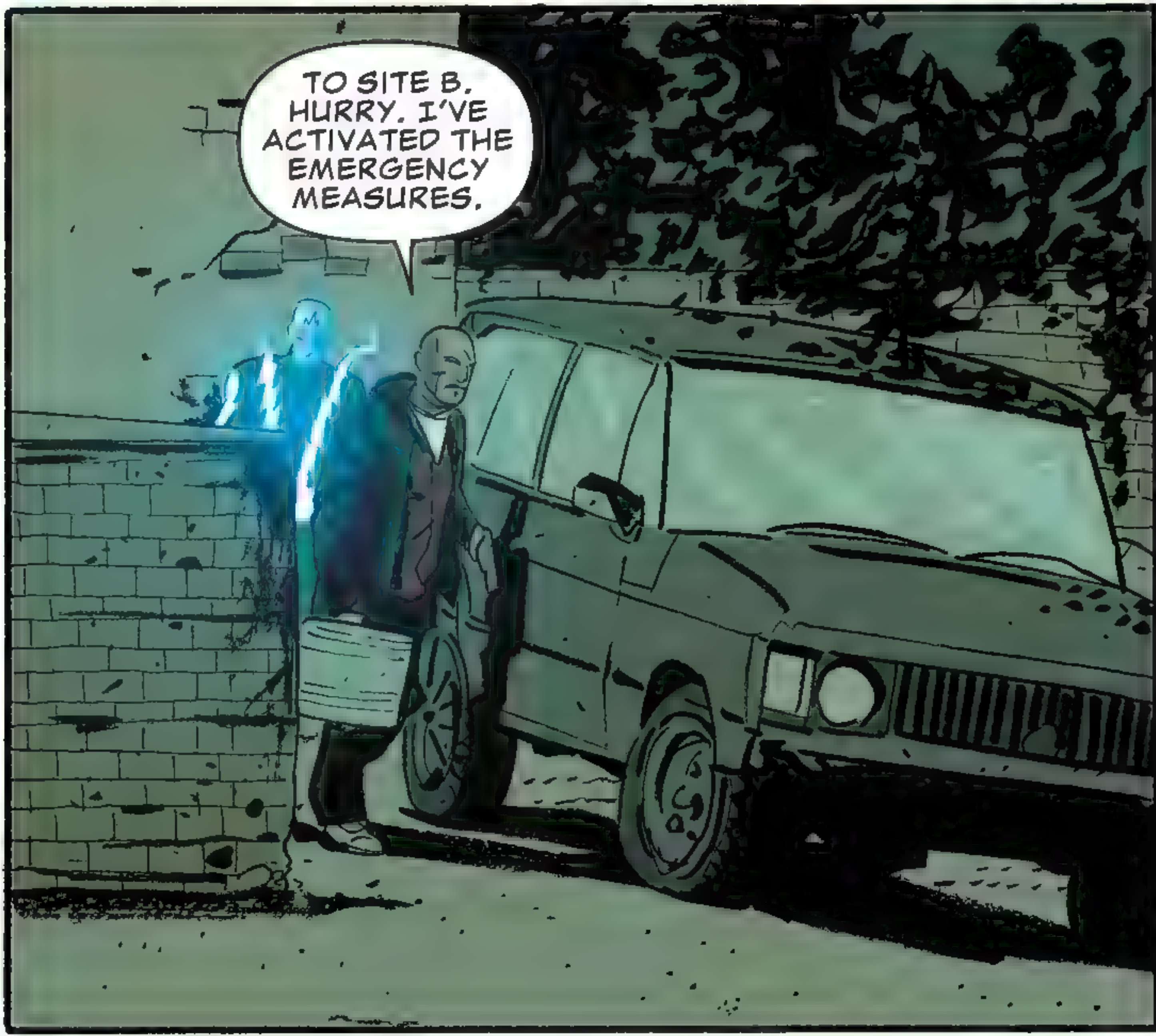
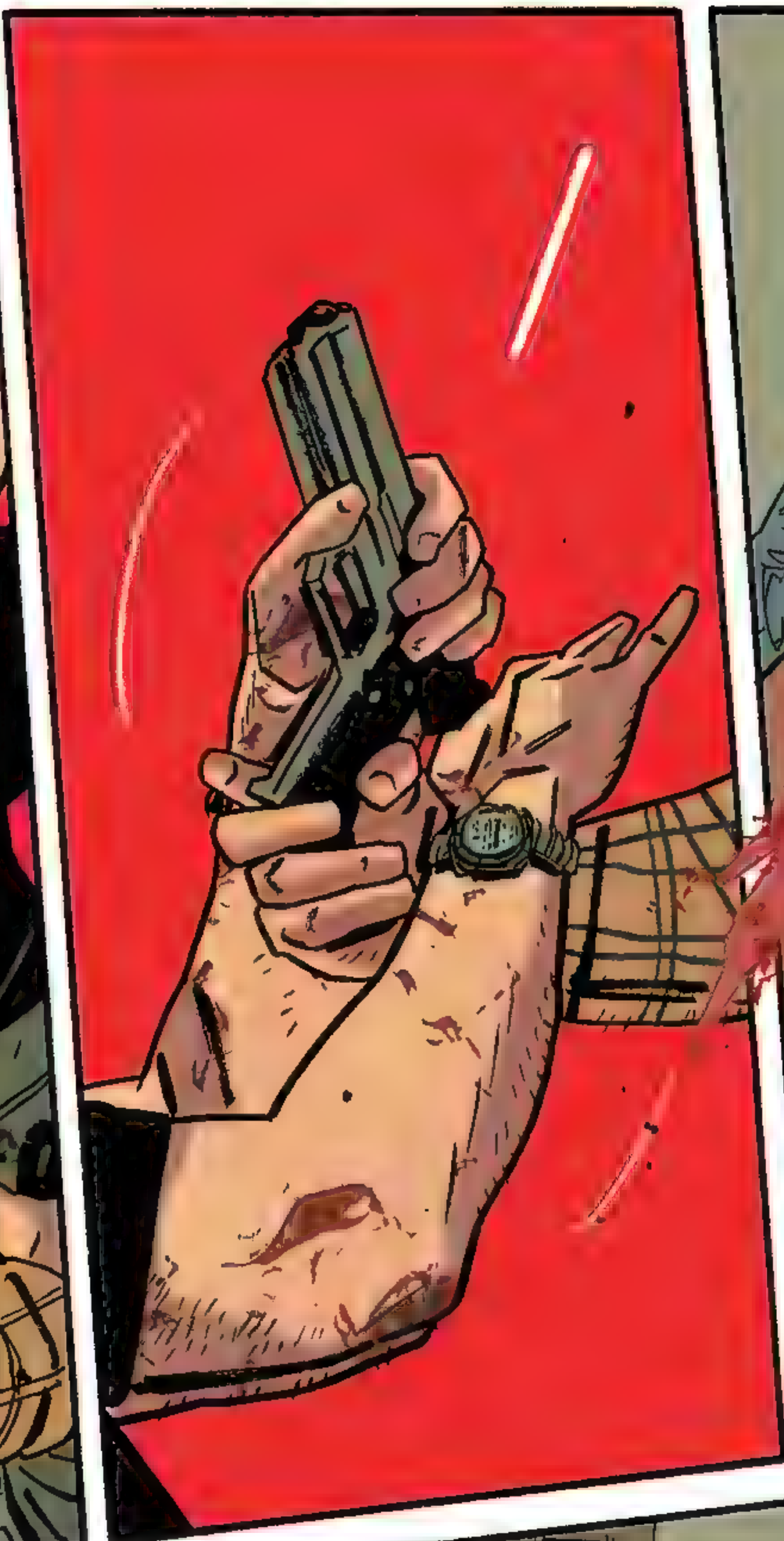
...
UGH.



NOT SURE DEL SOL WANTS
LIGHTNING STRIKING IN
HIS WAREHOUSE FULL
OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS.

I NEED
A GUN.







WHEN YOU'VE LOST EVERYTHING
WORTH LIVING FOR, YOU DECIDE
YOU AREN'T AFRAID TO DIE.

IT'S A LIE
YOU TELL
YOURSELF.



THE TRUTH IS YOU
WANT TO LIVE
MORE THAN EVER,
IF YOU CAN JUST
PUSH THROUGH THE
INITIAL SHOCK.



THAT
CAN'T BE
GOOD.



OH,
NO.



MOST
RESIDENTS WERE
EVACUATED.

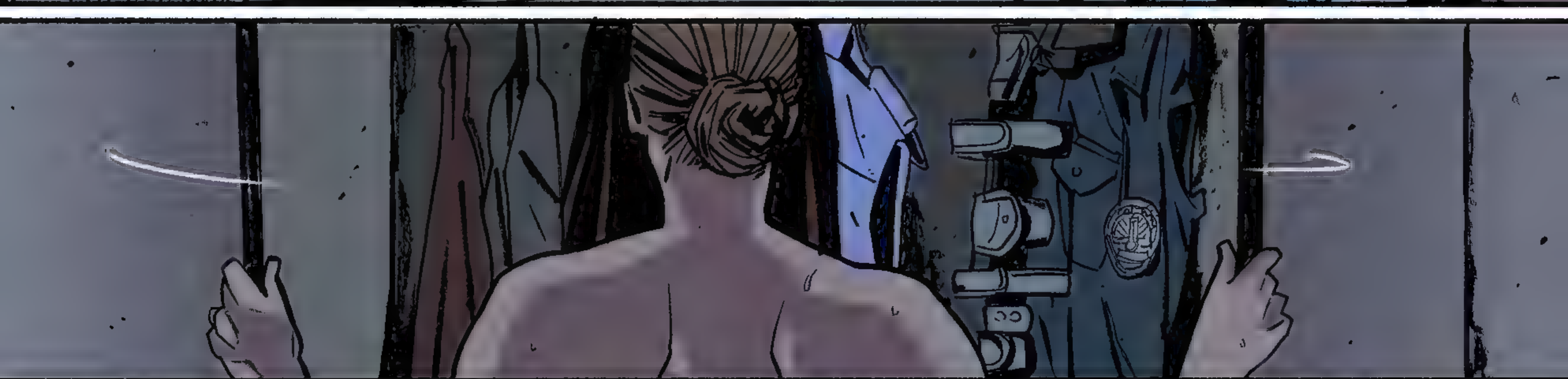
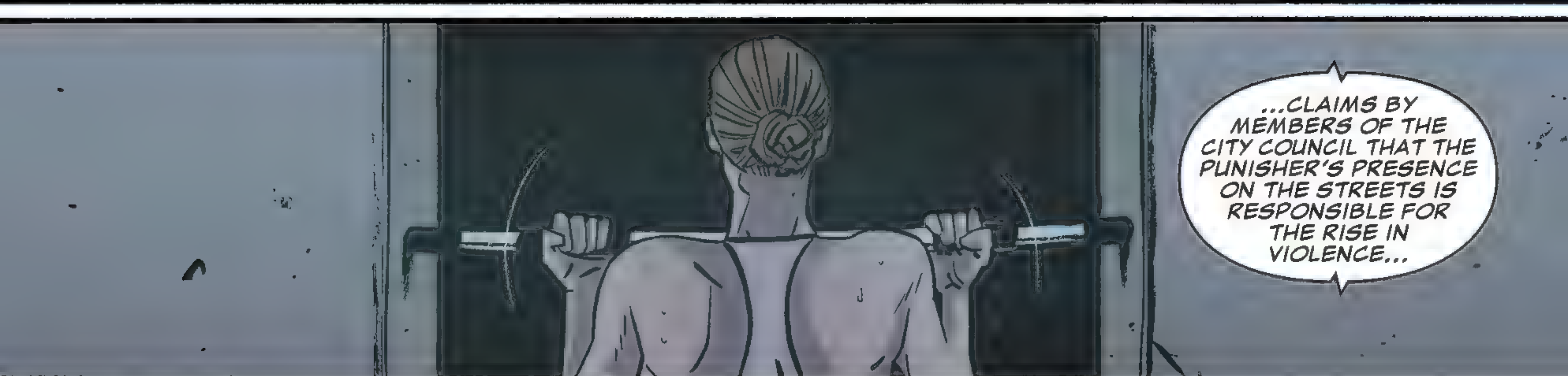
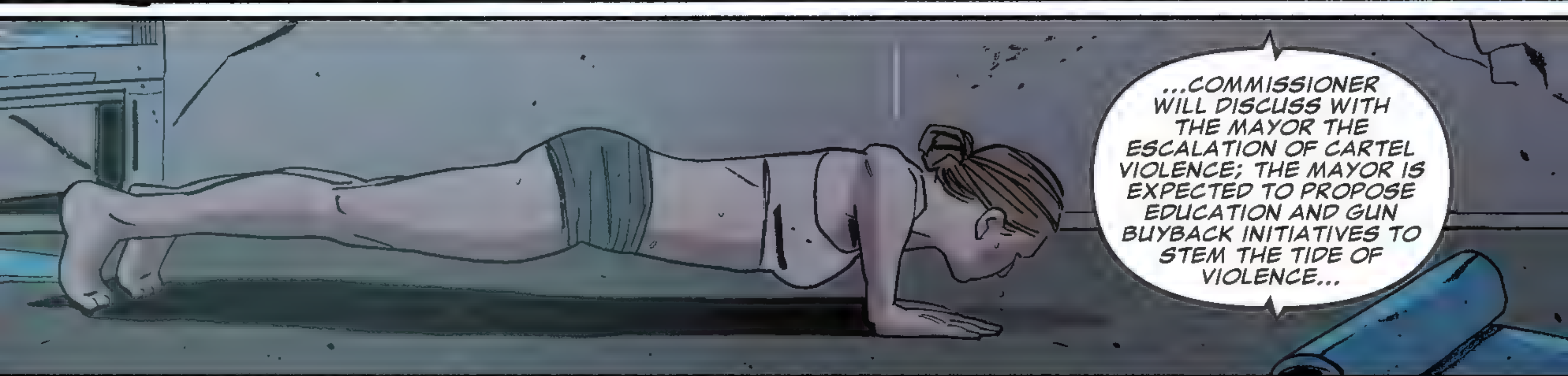
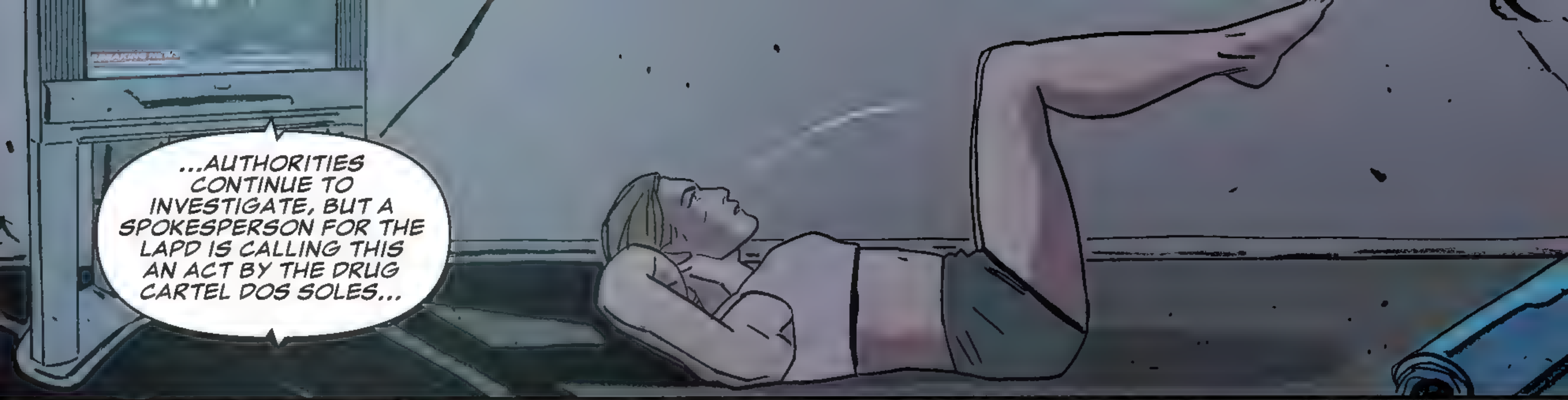
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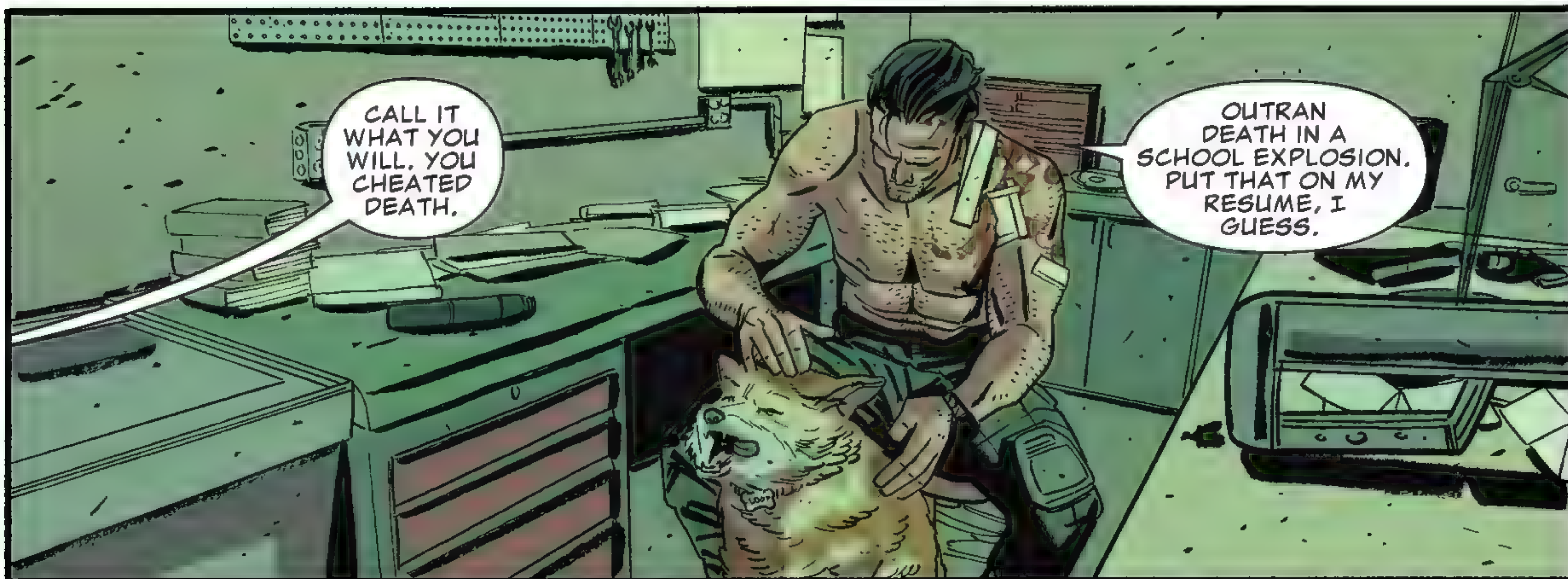


BREAKING NEWS

HBORHOOD BUILDING EXPLOSION. R

SOME SUFFERED
AN UNKNOWN RESPIRATORY
AILMENT FROM A GAS RELEASED
IN THE EXPLOSION AND ARE
CURRENTLY BEING TREATED,
MANY ARE IN CRITICAL
CONDITION...





CALL IT
WHAT YOU
WILL. YOU
CHEATED
DEATH.

OUTRAN
DEATH IN A
SCHOOL EXPLOSION.
PUT THAT ON MY
RESUME, I
GUESS.



BUT I LOST
DEL SOL, AND
HIS LAPDOG
ELECTRO.

DID YOU
GET A SENSE
OF THEIR
TIMELINE?

IT'S SOON. THEY'LL
USE ELECTRO TO
BLACK OUT THE CITY,
AND THEN THEY'LL
STRIKE.

A FULL-
SCALE STRIKE
ON LOS ANGELES.
INCREDIBLE.

TERRIFYING.



I NEED
TO GET
BACK OUT
THERE.

MAYBE THIS
ISN'T YOUR
FIGHT, FRANK.
MAYBE TURN
THIS OVER
TO--

TO?

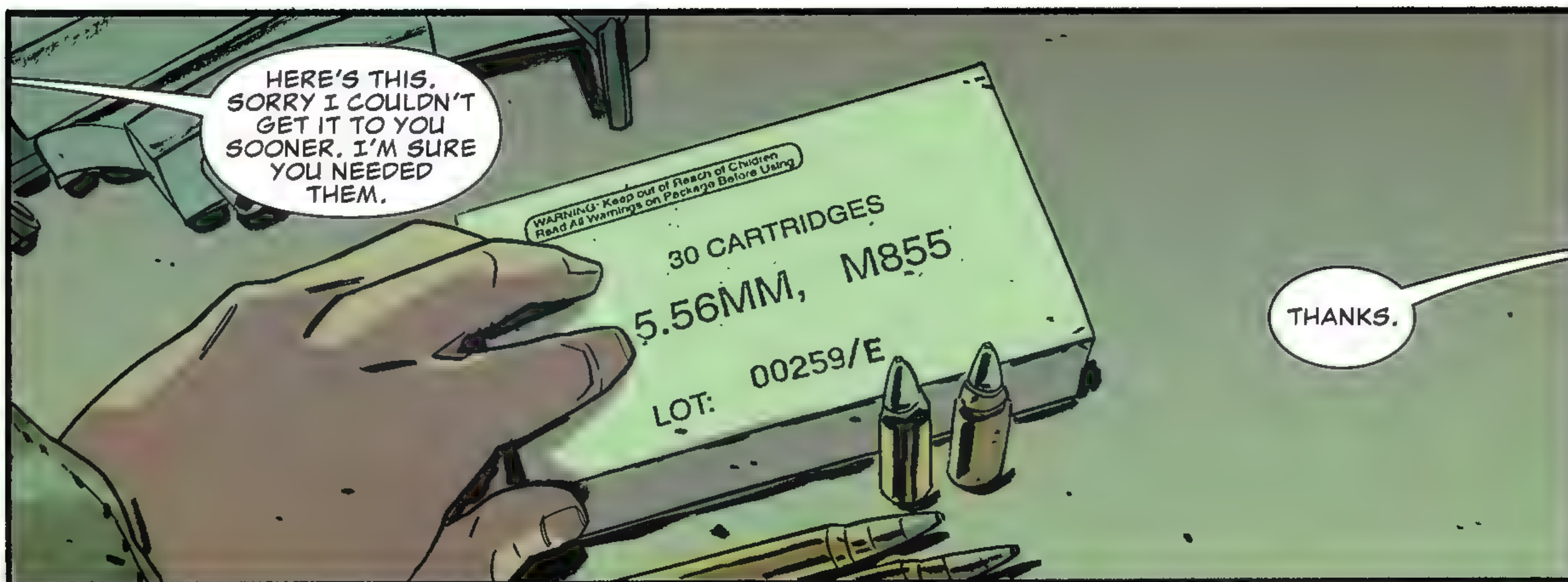


THE POLICE
ARE INEFFECTIVE.
WANT ME TO CALL
CAPTAIN AMERICA?
SO HE CAN RUN
AROUND THE STREETS
WHACKING SOME
GUYS WITH HIS
SHIELD? AND THEN
GIVE A SPEECH
ABOUT IT?

OR MAYBE
THE MILITARY
WANTS TO
OCCUPY THE CITY,
AND JUST LOCK
UP EVERYONE.

NO, TUGGS.
I'M THE DOCTOR
HERE AND THE
PATIENT NEEDS
CONTINUITY OF CARE.
I HAVE TO SEE IT
THROUGH. IF I
DON'T STOP
THEM, WELL...

EVERYONE
WILL GET
INVOLVED THEN,
ANYWAY.



DOS SOLES SITE B.

